EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an emailed statement sent to the New Jersey Herald by a firefighter who says she is the woman standing next to Sussex County Sheriff Michael Strada in a video allegedly recorded during a 2018 event in Stillwater that was sent out to media claiming inappropriate actions by Strada.

I want to set the record straight that Sheriff Strada never touched me inappropriately. I never made any claims against the sheriff and I certainly never asked for an investigation by anyone into anything involving the sheriff. Sheriff Strada is an honest, decent public official and this controversy over what seems to be an enhanced, six-second video has been completely fabricated by a man who is shamelessly hiding behind a phony name, a phony Facebook page and the #MeToo movement to defame people purely for political gain. The only thing I am a victim of is a huge and unwarranted invasion of my privacy, which has brought great distress to my family. I am urging responsible people and the media not to give any additional attention or credence to this despicable social media stalker and to allow my family and I to go on with our lives without future intrusion. Thank you.